

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY

HISTORIC SITE SUMMARY SHEET

Survey #: P.G. #82A-32 Building Date: 1900

Building Name: Meadows Farm

Location: 6205 Croom Station Road, Upper Marlboro, Maryland

Private/Residential/Occupied/Good/Inaccessible

Description:

The J. Selwyn Sasscer House is a two-story frame hipped roof dwelling of three-by-two bays with a two-story gable roof kitchen wing on the southwest corner. Set on a hillside 200 feet from Croom Station Road, it is reached by a drive lined with mature cedar and hickory trees. The three-bay north (main) facade has central entrance through double doors. There is also a double, wood framed screened door. The entrance is surmounted by a transom and has a narrow wood architrave surround. Windows on the facade are very large 1/1 double hung sash, with cement sills. The first story is sheltered by a three-bay hipped roof porch with square support posts. The porch is set high on stone piers, reached by a flight of wooden steps. The foundation of the house is of the same randomly laid rock-faced grey stone as the piers. Mortar beading emphasizes the pattern of joints between the stones. The asphalt shingled hipped roof comes to a point at the center of the building. There are high interior corbelled brick chimneys on the east and west roof slopes. The two-bay east and west facades are similar, having one story projecting semi-octagonal second bays with a wide frieze and crown molded cornice. The three bay north (rear) facade has a center, formal rear entrance. The door is flanked by sidelights and sheltered by a one bay shed roof overhang. There is a two-story, gable roof, two-by-one-bay kitchen wing on the northwest corner of the facade, with the same cornice treatment, foundation and siding as the main block although slightly lower in height. There is a center corbelled brick chimney at the roof ridge. The north gable end of the wing has a centered entrance on the first story sheltered by a hipped roof porch. There is a one-by-one-bay gable roof vertical sided well house east of the house, with a corrugated metal roof and overhanging eaves and projecting rafter ends. The house has a large yard with mature spruce, cedar and hickory trees.

Significance

Meadows Farm was built in 1900 for James Selwyn Sasscer, a son of Dr. Frederick Sasscer, well-known Upper Marlboro physician. In 1907 Sasscer, a farmer, acquired from his mother, 320 acres of family property called the Meadows. The house was built by Anthony Wyvill, who with his brothers is responsible for the construction of many local buildings including St. Mary's Roman Catholic Church in Upper Marlboro, and in Piscataway. Meadows Farm displays characteristics of the four-square style, popular in the County in the 1890's through the early twentieth century. These include its square plan, the shallow hipped roof, overhanging eaves and wide 1/1 double-hung-sash windows. It also has elements of older, Victorian vernacular dwellings including the large size of the building, the double corbelled chimneys flanking the buildings' center line, the high fieldstone foundation, rear two-story wing and imposing double entrance door surmounted by a transom.

Acres: 1 acre and 7.89 acres

Magi No.

DOE ___yes ___no

Maryland Historical Trust

State Historic Sites Inventory Form

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Meadows Farm

and/or common

2. Location

street & number 6205 Croom Station Road ___ not for publication

city, town Upper Marlboro ___ vicinity of congressional district 5

state Md. county Prince George's

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
___ district	___ public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	___ agriculture	___ museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	___ unoccupied	___ commercial	___ park
___ structure	___ both	___ work in progress	___ educational	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
___ site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	___ entertainment	___ religious
___ object	___ in process	___ yes: restricted	___ government	___ scientific
	___ being considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	___ industrial	___ transportation
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	___ no	___ military	___ other:

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Frederick Sasscer III

street & number 6205 Croom Station Rd. telephone no.:

city, town Upper Marlboro state and zip code Md. 20772

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Prince George's County Courthouse liber 4214

street & number Main Street folio 916

city, town Upper Marlboro state Md.

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title NA

date ___ federal ___ state ___ county ___ local

depository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

Survey No. FG 82A-32

Condition

☐ excellent
☒ good
☐ fair

☐ deteriorated
☐ ruins
☐ unexposed

Check one

☐ unaltered
☒ altered

Check one

☒ original site
☐ moved date of move _____

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The J. Selwyn Sasscer House is a two-story frame hipped roof dwelling of three-by-two bays with a two-story gable roof kitchen wing on the south-west corner. The house is set on a hillside approximately 200 feet from Croom Station Road and is reached by a drive lined with mature cedar and hickory trees.

The three-bay north (main) facade has central entrance through double doors with four light windows above and one long vertical pane below. There is also a double, wood framed screened door. The entrance is surmounted by a transom and has a narrow wood architrave surround. Windows on the facade are very large and wide 1/1 double hung sash, with cement sills. The first story windows are larger than those on the second story. The owners are replacing the 25 year old vertical board shutters with louvered vinyl shutters. The first story is sheltered by a three-bay hipped roof porch, the roof having overhanging eaves with projecting rafter ends. The square support posts are covered with the same asbestos shingle as that covering the house. The porch is set high on stone piers, reached by a flight of wooden steps. The area beneath the porch is masked by a wooden lattice between the stone piers.

The foundation of the house is of the same randomly laid rock-faced grey stone as the piers supporting the porch. Mortar beading emphasizes the pattern of joints between the foundation stones. The asphalt shingled hipped roof comes to a point at the center of the building. There is no cornice, but overhanging eaves with projecting rafter ends. There are high interior corbelled brick chimneys on the east and west roof slopes.

The two-bay east and west facades are similar, having one story projecting semi-octagonal second bays with a wide frieze and crown molded cornice. Windows on the facades have wood sills. The three bay north (rear) facade has a center, formal rear entrance through a door with three horizontal lower panels and nine upper glass lights. The door is flanked by sidelights above a wainscot panel, and sheltered by a one bay shed roof resting on wood brackets. The entrance is reached by a flight of stairs to a cement stoop. There is a bulkhead cellar entrance beneath the third bay. There is a two-story, gable roof, two-by-one-bay kitchen wing on the north-west corner of the facade. The wing has the same cornice treatment, foundation and siding as the main block although it is slightly lower in height. There is a center corbelled brick chimney at the roof ridge. The unfenestrated north gable end of the wing has a centered entrance on the first story sheltered by a hipped roof porch with slender wood posts, reached by a flight of stairs.

8. Significance

Survey No. PG-82A-32

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400–1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500–1599	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600–1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
				local history

Specific dates 1900 Builder/Architect Anthony Wyvill

check: Applicable Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D
and/or

Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☐ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

Meadows Farm is an excellent example of a four-square house, a style popular in the County in the early twentieth century. The house also has some transitional Victorian vernacular stylistic elements. It was built for James Selwyn Sasscer on a part of the Sasscer family's home place property. The builder, Anthony Wyville, built many buildings in the County, including St. Mary's Church in Upper Marlboro.

Meadows Farm was built in 1900 for James Selwyn Sasscer,¹ a son of Dr. Frederick Sasscer (1827–1888), well-known Upper Marlboro physician.² In 1907 James Selwyn Sasscer, a farmer, acquired from his mother, Rosalie Sasscer, 320 acres of family property called the Meadows.³

Meadows Farm was built by Anthony Wyvill, who with his brothers is responsible for the construction of many local buildings including St. Mary's Roman Catholic Church in Upper Marlboro, and in Piscataway. Meadows Farm was initially covered with lapped horizontal wood siding, then later "pebble dashed" or covered with stucco embedded with pebbles. Compton Bassett, ca. 1780, the home of Sasscer's brother, Frederick Sasscer,⁴ was pebble dashed, which may have influenced Selwyn Sasscer's choice of the wall covering. The house was later covered with the present white-painted asbestos shingles.

Meadows Farm displays characteristic elements of the four-square style, popular in the County in the 1890's through the early twentieth century. These include the square plan of the main block, the shallow hip-ped roof, overhanging eaves and wide 1/1 double-hung- sash windows. It also has elements of older, Victorian vernacular dwellings found in the County. These elements include the large size of the building, the double corbelled chimneys flanking the buildings' center line, the high fieldstone foundation, rear two-story wing and imposing double entrance door sur-mounted by a transom.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. FC 82A-32

See Notes, #8

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property 1 acre and 7.89 acresMap 101 D-4 p.277Quadrangle name Upper Marlboro F

Quadrangle scale _____

UTM References do NOT complete UTM referencesA

Zone	Easting				Northing				

B

Zone	Easting				Northing				

C

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D

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E

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F

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G

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Verbal boundary description and justification

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
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state	code	county	code
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11. Form Prepared By

name/title Marina King, Architectural Historianorganization Historic Preservation Commissiondate July 1986street & number 14741 Governor Oden Bowie Drivetelephone 952-3520city or town Upper Marlborostate Md.

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
Shaw House
21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 269-2438

#7. (Continued)

There is a one-by-one-bay gable roof vertical sided well house east of the house. It has a corrugated metal roof with overhanging eaves and projecting rafter ends. There is a modern one-half bay shed roof addition on its north facade. The house has a large surrounding yard with mature spruce, cedar and hickory trees. It is reached by a drive that approaches from the west and circles around the house.

#8. (Continued)

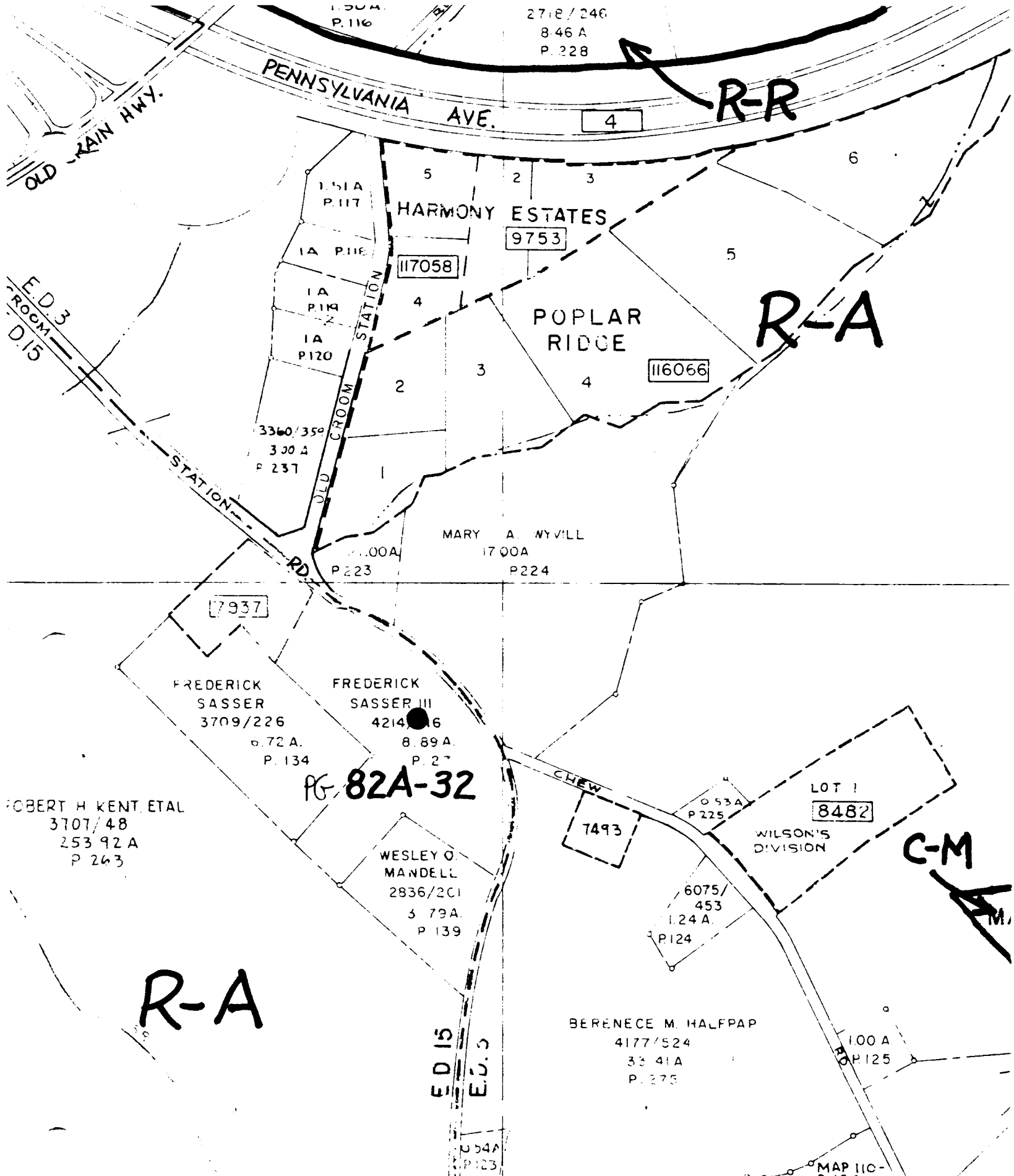
Notes

- 1 Interview with Frederick Sasscer, February 1986.
- 2 Effie Bwynn Bowie, Across the Years in Prince George's County
Geneological Publishing Company, Inc., Baltimore, 1975.
- 3 Land Records of Prince George's County, 47:558.
- 4 Bowie, op. cit.

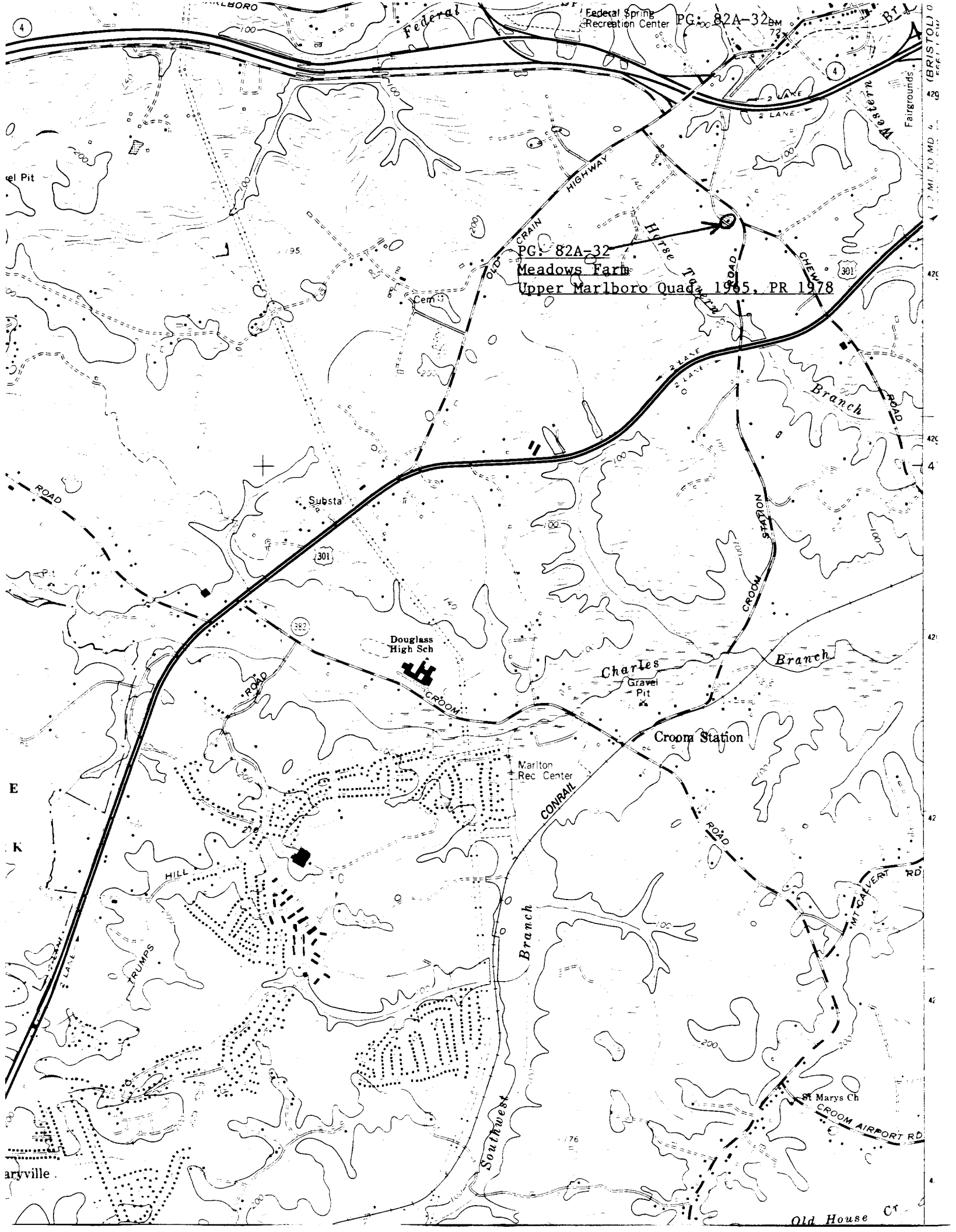
Chain of Title

Meadows Farm
P.G. #82A-32 (Sasscer House)

4214:916 1 Mar 1973 Deed	Frederick Sasscer and Marie L. Sasscer to Frederick Sasscer III and Pat Chambers Sasscer. For \$10 grantors convey that parcel in Mellwood District containing 8.89 acres.
W.E.C. 1 Ad #8189 12 Dec 1945 Will	James Selwyn Sasscer bequeaths to son Frederick Sasscer the Meadows Farm, 320 acres.
47:558 9 Jan 1907 Deed	Rosalie Sasscer (widow) to James S. Sasscer. For \$10 grantor conveys those tracts near Upper Marlboro known as The Meadows, a part of Delay and Weston, contains 320 acres. Described in deed from Zadock Sasscer, William H. Sasscer and Henrietta S. Sasscer to Frederick Sasscer, in June, 1863, F.S. 1:548. With exceptions, including to Trustees of Colored Methodist Church, F.S. 3:189.
F51:548 15 June 1863 Deed	Zadock Sasscer, William H. Sasscer and Henrietta Sasscer to Frederick Sasscer. Whereas Zadock Sasscer died 1859 intestate, his heirs at law have agreed to the division of this estate. Frederick Sasscer to have the real estate purchased by his father from Sarah Forrest and Mary M. Kearney, conveyed December 6, 1862. Grantors convey those parcels contiguous to each other, called the Meadows, a part of Delay and Addition to Delay, and a part of Weston, adjoining the land of Thomas Claggett. Contains 320 acres, together with improvements.



PLAT NO. 82A-32	PROPERTY	OWNER
SUBJECT TO BOUNDARY	PLAT NO. 82A-32	OWNER
PLAT NO. 82A-32	PLAT NO. 82A-32	OWNER





P.G. #82A-32

Meadows Farm
Prince George's County, MD.
Marina King
February 1986
North elevation
Neg: Md. Hist. Trust, Annapolis, MD.



P.G. #82A-32

Meadows Farm
Prince George's County, MD.
Marina King
February 1986
East elevation
Neg: Md. Hist. Trust, Annapolis, MD.



P.G. #82A-32

Meadows Farm
Prince George's County, MD.
Marina King
February 1986
West elevation
Neg: Md. Hist. Trust, Annapolis, MD.



P.G. #82A-32

Meadows Farm
Prince George's County, MD
Marina King
February 1986
South elevation
Neg: Md. Hist. Trust, Annapolis, MD.



P.G. #82A-~~31~~

Meadows Farm
Prince George's County, MD.
Marina King
February 1986
North entrance
Neg: Md. Hist. Trust, Annapolis, MD.